Amongst the business most urgently demanding the attention of Congress at its present session is the revision of the Tariff, by substituting, in all practicable cases, specific for ad valorem duties on products and manufactures imported from Foreign Countries. In the discussions upon extraneous questions, and others of less consequence, and certainly of less immediate urgency, this measure, so important as a means of relieving the pressure upon certain of our home manufactures, and the only means of preventing extensive frauds on the revenues through the undervaluation of imported goods. has been almost entirely lost sight of.

Our attention has been especially directed to the subject by the reception, yesterday, from a respect able and reliable source, of the subjoined article, which we should adopt but for the particular knowledge it displays of commercial details, with which, it must be generally understood, we are not as familiar as the writer evidently is.

If our endorsing his conclusions and seconding his recommendations would assist the writer in his laudable object, we should not hesitate to expres our entire concurrence in his views

Among the tabular statements accompanying the last Annual Report of the Secretary of the Treesury there were several intended to show the nominal dithere were several intended to show the nominal di-minution of the prices of various foreign articles since the universal ad valorem tariff of 1846 went into operation; but thus far they have failed to at-tract attention in or out of Congress, partly from the time occupied by the all-engrossing topic of the Pre-sidential election, but more especially from the entire unwillingness of members even to entertain the tire unwillingness of members even to entertain the idea that any part of that so-much-cherished measure of the last Administration is susceptible of correction or improvement in any of its features. With Mr. Walker, the late Secretary of the Treasury, the idea of a general ad valorem tariff, upon the principles of an equitable classification of Import Duties, had so absorbed his faculties and attention that no commercial advice or experience was permitted to be brought to his aid in the arrangements of its details. Men of enlarged experience and practical judgment predicted at the time the impracticability in the day of the da of carrying into entire operative effect a tariff of such a character, and others deplored the encour-agement it would hold out to the still greater exten-sion of that reckless swearing at the consular offices and the custom-houses by many importers, who too commonly act upon, and even occasionally defend, the doctrine that there is a wide difference between a custom-house oath and all others, whether taken in court or elsewhere. This is not to be construed as a general charge—by no means; but, lest it be con-strued as such, and seized upon as an argument against the position here assumed, the intention is at once disclaimed; but, for the justice of its partial application, it is only necessary to appeal to the experience of business men in any commercial city.

It is perhaps improbable that any modification of the tariff of 1846 will be effected this season; nor

is it the intention of the writer to urge, against the apparently fixed determination of Congress, the usual topics in favor of that great national modification, which would, if accomplished, restore the for-mer usefulness and importance of many of our manufacturing institutions, without operating in the least degree injuriously against the other interests of the country. The present object is to point out the defects of the existing ad valorem tariff, in the universality of its features, leading as it does to frauds of the most extensive character, not so much upon the Government as upon the fair trader, who too often finds himself struggling against a competition that he in vain seeks to countervail or investisentiment. It is a grave enarge to say that regularities referred to—or, to speak more plainly, frauds-are perpetrated at the custom-houses and respected for the faithful and conscientious disthe existing law as will restore the specific duties to tact in such matters. every article, the nature and appearance of which renders it almost impossible for consuls or for the officers of the customs to affix to it the fair market value for the assessment of the ad valorem duty But to the proofs. From the tables referred to we select for this

emmunication the following, relative to cigars:

dr to Imported. selling	Tariff.	Thou- sands.	Value. \$463,431	Aver	
Nine months end'g June 30, 43	Specific				42
Year ending June 30, '44	do	64,607			
Do	de		1,160,644		
Do	40		1,282,861		
Five months end'g Nov. 30, '46	40	40,746			
Seven mo's end'g June 30, '47	Ad valorem	43,268	562,512	12	81
Year ending June 30, 48	do	125,066	1,360,408	10	85
Do	do	106,982	1,439,765	-13	46
Do '50	do	124,303	1,469,097	11	81
Do	do		2,520,902		
RESULT Average invoice cost	at specific du	rilogion.	Levill 1193	215	45
Average invoice cost		duty	A	11	85
Reduction in average	cost .	<b>阿拉克斯克</b> ·阿拉	55 (1) (1)	2	55
Formal to	THE STREET, STATE OF	2000 m2 10	Che Asset	100	6

To this it was objected by an ultra Walker man, one of those who had predetermined that there could be no flaw, speck, or blemish in the tariff of 1846. be no flaw, speck, or blemish in the tarm of 1940, that the high scale of duties on cigars had led to an increased importation of those of an inferior class, usually imported from Mexico, Bremen, &c., and thus reducing the average cost price of the whole. The writer in consequence entered upon an investi-gation of the matter, and from the Register's annual reports on the commerce and navigation of the United States compiled the following table:

Statement of the Imports of Cigars under the specific and as

Treasury Depar	tment.	d from			turns o	f the
Time.	Cuba Cigars.			All other Cigars.		
	Thous-	Invoice cost.	Av'ge.	Thous-	Invoice cost.	A'ge
1943—1844		981,261 1,106,482 1,256,012 640,161	16 47 16 35	1,602 6,508 2,410 708	13,170 60,192 26,849 5,228	8 16 9 25 11 14 7 38
Street and Total and St.	Control State	3,957,886	Village and the	MINISTER CO.	105,439	9 39
UNDE	R THE	D VALO	REM T	ARIFF.	5 213/2nt	dles.
Dec.1, '46, to June 30,'7 1847 — 1848 . 1848 — 1849 . 1849 — 1850 .	102,010	538,509 1,329,056 1,407,028 1,416,094 2,802,773	11. 12 13 70 12 04	4,004 6,635 4,972 12,984 65,888	24,003 31,412 31,830 52,403 218,039	6 00 4 73 6 40 4 28 3 90
	585,935	6,994,959	13 05	83,733	367,696	4 27

or 54.52 per cent.

This table certainly does prove that the mingling of the two kinds of cigars had slightly increased the average reduction in price of the best, whilst it proved at the same time, and as a necessary consemence, that there had been an enormous red rices of those of an inferior class.

It will be seen that the cigars of inferior manufacture have been entered since the passage of the

tariff act of 1846 at prices averaging 54 per cent. less, and that those from Cuba, which constitute the great bulk of the importations, were entered at an average cost of nearly 19 per cent. lower than during the four years previous, under the system of

I am aware it may be urged that under the latter system (the duty was then assessed per weight) there was no object in invoicing the cigars at less, and that there was often policy under the former in putting them down at an advance on the actual cost, with a view to procuring undue advances, or to stimulating the consignees to extra zeal in effecting sales. But, on the other hand, more than half the eigars are imported for account of our own citizens, whilst the owners of but a limited part of those sent hither on consignment would resort to the practices referred to. In this view of the case, it would be a large allowance to reduce the average cost of the Cuba cigars prior to 1847 to \$15, and those of other kinds to \$8; and taking these prices only as the basis upon which to calculate the loss to the present revenue of forty per cent. ad valorem, I find the said loss to be \$428,748 on Cuba, and \$124,929 on other kinds of cigars. But, leaving the latter calculation, under the belief that it is correct in itself, it remains to be observed which is the most promiit remains to be observed-which is the most prominent fact in the whole question-that during the past five years the advance in the prices of cigars at Havana (and the imports from the rest of the island are scarcely worth noticing) is a matter of general notoriety, not only to the dealers, but to every man who indulges in the use of the genuine article. It can scarcely be denied that such advance, from causes not necessary now to explain, amounts to thirty-three per cent. at the least; and if we assume ty-three per cent at the least; and if we assume such advance to have been only twenty per cent. instead of \$15, the imports of the first five years should have averaged \$18 per thousand, and the loss to the revenue has amounted to \$1,072,000!

So much as it respects the actual or estimated losses sustained by the Government through the

machinery of the tariff of 1846 on cigars alone. But there is another view to be taken of the case, in which the fair and honest dealer is the most interested party. Assuming the real average price of cigars at Havana to be \$18, as above noted, and that only one-fourth the exports have been fairly invoiced, it reduces the prices of the remaining three-fourths to \$11.40; the duty on the difference,

was at first designed; but as they are not based upon mere party feeling, and are intended to awaken the attention of Members of Congress of both parties to the injurious effects of a universal ad valorem system of duties upon the interests of the upright and fair dealer, independent of the losses sustained by the Treasury, and as the facts advanced and the deductions drawn therefrom have been correctly ascertained or carefully estimated, it is to be hoped they will not be without their results, especially on the minds of those directly interested

Remarks less diffuse but equally applicable other articles of import will form the subject of a succeeding article. Yours, &c. FOUITY.

### OVERLAND TO CALIFORNIA.

Messrs. Editors: I have been frequently asked as to the best mode of outfit for California by land.

To St. Louis via Pittsburgh by railroad and steamboat from Washington, twenty-five dollars, four men or two gentlemen and wives can travel in one four-horse carriage, the back part of which is arranged for a tent which is the smallest that can be used, cooking utensils, including a light tin reflector, a place fixed on the sides of the carriage for a light axe, a small sythe and a small sharp spade, one box of maccaroni, 150 pounds flour, butter, lard, pork, sugar, coffee, &c. to each person, which should be compactly arranged in the back part of your carriage. It will cost less by this method of travelling by one-half than by the Isthmus to Califernia. Make all the pur-chases at St. Louis; the Rocky Mountain men will tell you gate. If a Government possesses a power to tax its chases at St. Louis; the Rocky Mountain men will tell you citizens in any shape, it is its duty to see that such how to economise, and what articles to buy; go by way taxes are equally levied upon all classes of those of Salt Lake, buy a supply there, treat the Mormons well, citizens; and especially is this enjoined upon our and no trouble will ensue. The story of the rebellion sentiment. It is a grave charge to say that the ir- but it is true that they have located their capital just the United States; nevertheless the charge is sus- sand dollars received for public buildings in paying exceptible of proof, without the necessity of designating particular time, place, or men, and without in the slightest degree implicating the revenue officers of the United States, who are universally known ally hold religious meetings as well as administer justice in of their duties. These frauds originate tracts, there will probably be public buildings to be erectmostly in foreign countries, and are of a nature to ed in California, (wages and cost of material about the set at defiance the vigilance and skill of the whole same as at Salt Lake;) be can have a chance, provided be corps of collectors, appraisers, &c. in the United can give sufficient security, it being very necessary to States. The remedy lies in such a modification of

of Sall Lake, by some both of the revision of the provided and controlled will come. The story of the rebuiltion and collassing with the Indians is without foundation. Dott it is true that they have located their capital just where it should be, near the center of their ferroit, and the believe it is true that they have located treaty thousand dollars received for public buildings in paging the same of the qualifications and corrison," respectibly present the follow-page penses incurred in building, their counted or court-house, just the best arrangement they could have made, and like other people in the Westers country, they occasionally individual to the control of the control of the country of the c

In reply to a letter of inquiry, the First Assistant of the Postmaster General has announced that an article or advertisement in a newspaper may be marked with a pen or pencil, without subjecting the sheet to letter postage, if it is done for the sole purpose of readily attracting the attention of the person to whom the paper may be sent. If the mark should be made so as to convey any other information, the paper would then be charged with letter rates,—Baltimore American.

DISCOVERY OF A WILD MAN.—A short time since, one of the surveyors engaged on the Panama Water Works discovered something in the shape of a man sitting on the bank of a stream, a few miles from Panama. He was entirely naked, and had very long black hair. The party addressed him both in Spanish and English, but he appeared to understand neither, and, refusing any intercourse with them, escaped into the woods, where they were unable to pursue him.

# CONGRESS.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1852. The SENATE did not sit to-day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The SPEAKER stated the first business in order to be the engrossment of the bill for the relief of Osborn-Cross, of the U.S. Army, yesterday reported from the Committee of the Whole with the recommendation that it do pass. After considerable debate, the yeas and nays were ordered on the engrossment of the bill, and, being taken, resulted: Yeas 91, nays 49.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third rending; and, being engrossed, it was read the third time and passed.

The House then adjourned.

## TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1852.

IN SENATE. The PRESIDENT of the Senate laid before the body

The PRESIDENT of the Senate laid before the body a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, made in compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 27th ultimo, calling for information in regard to officers of the navy receiving greater compensation than is provided by the act of March 3, 1835.

Mr. HALE said the report was in answer to a resolution submitted by himself, and showed the rumor was unfounded. He was happy te say that this was a rumor of abuse which had no existence in fact, and he would simply move that it be laid on the table and printed; which motion was agreed to. was agreed to.

DEATH OF MR. ANDREWS.

A message was received from the House of Representa-ives announcing the death of Mr. Andrews, and the re-polutions that were passed by that body in respect to his

Mr. HAMLIN then rose and addressed the Senate on the haracter of the deceased, and concluded by offering the ollowing resolutions:

Resolved, That the Senate resolves with sincere regret the announcement of the death of the Hon. Charles Annews, late a member of the House of Representatives from the State of Maine, and tenders to the relatives of the deceased the assurance of their sympathy with them under the bereavement they have been called to sustain.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Sanate be directed to transmit to the family of Mr. Andrews a certified copy of the foregoing resolution.

The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.
And then the Senate adjourned.

#### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. DEATH OF MR. ANDREWS.

After the reading of the JournalMr. McDONALD rose and said: Mr. Speaker, I not rise to make any motion in relation to the ordinary business of the House, but to perform the sad duty of bringing to its attention the recent death of one of its

members.

The Hon. Charles Andrews, but a few days since in our midst, evidently greatly debilitated in body, yet strong in the belief that the mildness of approaching summer would impart new vigor to the springs of life, left this city on the morning of the 13th of April last for his distant and loved home.

By the last mail from the North the delegation from

Maine received the afflicting intelligence that their col-league has been disappointed in his hopes, and died at his residence, on Paris Hill, surrounded by his family, on residence, Friday last.

After some remarks complimentary to the character of the deceased, Mr. McD. offered resolutions in substance similar to those adopted by the Senate, which were unanimously adopted, and then the House adjourned.

#### MONDAY, MAY 3, 1852.

IN SENATE.

The PRESIDENT of the Senate laid before the body ication from the several Departments, made in ace with a resolution of the Senate of the 7th of March, 1851, calling on the several heads of Departments to report some plan of classifying the clerks in the several Departments, apportioning their salaries according to their services, and for equalizing the salaries of the clerks of the same grade in the different Departments. Referred to the Committee on Finance and ordered to be printed. [The document is signed by all the Secretaries, except the Secretary of State, and reads as follows:

Washington, May 1, 1852.

Sir: The undersigned, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate of the 7th of March, 1851, directing the Secretaries of State, of the Treasury, of the Interior, of War, of the Navy, and the Postmaster General to report to the Senate "some plan of classifying the clerks in the several Departments; for apportioning their salaries according to their services; and for equalizing the salaries of the clerks of the same grade in each of the Departments; also, some plan to provide for a fair and impartial examination of the qualifications of clerks, and for promoting them from one grade to another, upon due regard to qualifications and services," respectfully present the follow-

RESOLUTIONS OF STATE LEGISLATURES. RESOLUTIONS OF STATE LEGISLATURES.

Mr. SUMNSE presented a resolution of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, stating that an essential reduction on the present rates of postage would remove a very serious restraint upon the commercial and social relations between the United States and the nations of Europe, and would tend greatly to the advancement of commerce and civilization, and requesting the efforts of their Senators to procure so desirable an end; which was ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

By Mr. WALKER: From the Legislature of Wisconsin, representing that the construction of railroads in that State is a subject of deep interest to its citizens, and would result in greatly enhancing the value of the public domain and the commercial prosperity of the Union, and asking that speedy and favorable action may be had on all the bills now pending before Congress for that purpose; believing as they do that in making liberal donations of the public domain for the promotion of internal improvements in that State, not only its own interests, but the best interests of the whole country will be promoted.

DEFICIENCY BILLS.

DEFICIENCY BILLS. The Senate then proceeded to consider the deficiency bill, the amendment pending being that increasing compensation to the Collins line of steamers.

Mr. RUSK rose and addressed the Senate at consideration in the control of the con

ble length in favor of the amendment as a measure of national policy. ational policy.

Mr. HUNTER was desirous to reply, and was prepared o proceed at once.
Mr. CLARKE said that his colleague (Mr. James)

desired to address the Senate on the subject; he suggested that the further consideration be postponed.

On motion by Mr. ATCHISON, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some considerable time spent therein, the doors were reopened, and the Senate discuss therein, the doors were reopened,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. The bills from the Senate for the relief of Charles G. funter, and of Jane Irwin, were read a third time and

BUSINESS ON THE SPEAKER'S TABLE. On motion of Mr. COBB, the rules were suspended to enable him to submit the motion that the House proceed to the consideration of business on the Speaker's table; which motion having been agreed to—

The SPEAKER laid before the House Executive com-

munications, as follows:
A message from the President of the United States, in The same from the President of the United States, inviting the attention of Congress to the State affairs in the Territory of Oregon, growing out of a conflict of opinion among the authorities of that Territory in regard to a proper construction of certain acts of Congress. Referred to the Committee on Territories and ordered to be

A message from the President, transmitting, in A message from the President, transmitting, in compliance with the resolution of the House of the 30th March, a report from the Secretary of War, accompanied by the original manuscript report of Capt. Thomas J. Crane, on the best mode of improving the navigation of the Ohio river at the Falls of Louisville. Referred to the Committee on Reads and Canals and ordered to be printed. A message from the President, transmitting, in compliance with a resolution of the House of the 18th ultimo, a copy of the correspondence with John P. Gaines, Governor of the Territory of Oregon, relative to the seat of government of that Territory. Referred to the Committee on Territories, and ordered to be printed.

A message from the President, transmitting the report of the inspectors of the Penitentiary of the United States in the District of Columbia, for the year ending the 31st December last. Referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, and ordered to be printed.

of Columbia, and ordered to be printed.

A message from the President, relative to the abstrac-

A message from the President, relative to the abstraction of certain papers from the Department of State, recommending the enactment of a law making such offences penal. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and ordered to be printed.

A message from the President, transmitting, in further answer to the resolution of the House of the 5th of January last requesting information in regard to a circular of her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs, in respect to the encouragement of the emigration of colored laborers from the United States to the British West India Islands, another despatch addressed to the Department of State by the Minister of the United States at London. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Department of State, trans-

Foreign Affairs, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Department of State, transmitting, agreeably to the act of Congress of March 2, 1819, regulating passenger ships and vessels, a tabular statement showing the number and description of passengers who arrived in the United States from the 30th of September, 1850, to the 1st of January, 1852. Referred to the Committee on Commerce, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Treasury Department, transmitting copies of such accounts as have been rendered by persons charged or entrusted with the disbursement or application of moneys, goods, or effects for the benefit of the Indians, for the two fiscal years terminating on the 30th June, 1850, and the 30th June, 1851. Referred to the Committee on Public Expenditures, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the same, transmitting a letter from the First Comptroller, with a copy of all the correspondence between his department and the Secretary of the Territory of Oregon respecting the seat of government of said Territory, as required by a resolution of the House of the 18th March last. Referred to the Committee on Territories, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the same, transmitting copies the accounts of John H. Trenholm and William M. Be for printing executed in their name for the Senate and House of Representatives of the 31st Congress, in com-pliance with a resolution of the House of the 26th of April last. Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

mate from the Commissary General of Subsistence for the service of his department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1853, in lieu of the one for the same object transmit-ted to Congress at the commencement of the present ses-sion. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and

A communication from the same department, relative to the apprepriations of the 28th and 30th of September, 1850, of ten thousand dollars each, made by Congress for the locating of life boats on the coast of the United States, &c. Referred to the Committee on Commerce, and ordermication from the same, transmitting a letter

A communication from the same, transmitting a letter from the Secretary of War, stating that the estimates for his department, submitted at the commencement of the present session, may be reduced in certain particulars \$525,522.52. Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Department of the Interior, transmitting lists of the clerks and other persons employed in that department and its bureaus during the last year, and the amount paid to each. Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Post Office Department, transmitting, in compliance with law, a statement of the finances of that department for the year ending the 30th June, 1851. Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the same department, transmitting, in compliance with law, statements of the contracts made for the carrying of the mails. Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

A communication from the Commissioner of Patents.

A communication from the Commissioner of Patents. transmitting the agricultural portion of his report for the

year 1851.

[The Commissioner says: "In view of the rapid destruction and threatened extermination of the principal ruminants of the continent, a paper has been prepared at my request by Prof. S. P. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution, to show their susceptibility of domestication; and that duty requires us, instead of wantonly destroying, to preserve and multiply these noble denizens of our forests and plains, both because of the great interest attached to them by the naturalists, and of the value of some of them as laborers, and all of them as furnishing materials for

them by the naturalists, and of the value of some of them as laborers, and all of them as furnishing materials for manufactures and for food."]

The report was laid on the table and ordered to be printed, and, on motion of Mr. HIBBARD, the Committee on Printing were instructed to inquire into the expediency of printing one hundred thousand extra copies. SENATE BILLS REFERRED.

and appropriately referred:

An act for the relief of Mrs. E. A. McNeil, widow of the late Gen. John McNeil.

An act for the relief of John F. Callan, administrator of Daniel Benner, deceased.

An act to authorize T. H. McManus to enter by preemption certain lands in the Greensburg land district,
Louisiana.

An act appropriating a sum of money for the comple-tion of the interment of officers and soldiers who died in Mexico in the American cemetery near the city of Mexico.

An act to grant the right of pre-emption to settlers on the public land known as the "Maison Rouge Grant," and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of the securities of Elijah J. Weed

late quartermaster of marines, deceased.

An act for the relief of Nancy Wright.

An act for the relief of Robert Jemison

An act for the relief of Nathaniel Kuykendall.
An act to provide compensation to William Woodbridge and Henry Chipman, for services in adjusting titles to land in Michigan, and for other purposes.

An act for the relief of Sarah Flinn.
An act for the relief of David Osburn.
An act for the relief of Thomas D. Jennings.
An act for the relief of John McReynolds, of Detroit, in the State of Michigan.
An act for the relief of Samuel Bray.
An act for the relief of Thomas Rhodes.
An act granting the right of way and making a grant

An act for the relief of Thomas Rhodes.

An act granting the right of way and making a gran of land to the State of Iewa in aid of the construction of certain railroads in said State.

An act for the relief of Wm. A. Christian.

An act for the relief of Wm. Speiden.

An act granting the right of way to the State of Missouri, and a portion of the public lands to aid in the construction of certain railroads in said State.

An act granting to the State of Alabama the right of way and a donation of public lands for making a railroad from Selma to the Tennessee river.

An act to authorize the State of Wisconsin to select the residue of the land to which that State is entitled under the act of the 8th of August, 1846, to aid in the improvement of the Fox and Wisconsin rivers.

An act making an appropriation for the erection of a marine hospital at Portland, Maine.

An act granting to the State of Arkansas the right of way and a portion of the public land to aid in the construction of railroads in that State.

A resolution to provide for straightening the eastern

A resolution to provide for straightening the eastern ooundary line of the naval hospital lands at New York. An act for the relief of G. Thomas Howard. An act for the relief of St. John's church, in the city of

Washington.

An act for the relief of Wm. C. Easton.

An act for the relief of Wm. C. Easton.
An act for the relief Bryan Callagan.
An act relating to the salaries of officers of the Territories of the United States, and to repeal the provise in the act entitled "An act making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the year ending the 30th of June, 1852, and for other purposes," approved March 3, 1851.

An act to divide the State of Ohio into two judicial districts, and to provide for holding the district and circuit courts of the United States therein.

An act to authorize the payment of invalid pensions in

An act to compensate the owners of certain military lands in the State of Kentucky, granted to the officers and soldiers of the Virginia State line of the army of the revolution, which have been taken by paramount claims.

An act amendatory of existing laws relative to the half-dollar, quarter-dollar, and half-dime.

An act increasing the salary of the district judge of the United States for the district of New Hampshire.

An act to enable the proper accounting officers to com-

An act to enable the proper accounting officers to com-olete a settlement with Captain Henry L. Kinney. An act for the relief of Seneca G. Simmons. An act to provide for a tri-monthly mail from New Or-eans to Vera Cruz, via Tampico, and back, in steam

An act to change the name of Joseph Lewis Breese, aidshipman in the navy of the United States.

An act to grant to certain settlers on the Menomone

An act to grant to certain settlers on the Menomonee purchase, north of Fox river, in the State of Wisconsin, the right of pre-emption.

An act for the relief of James Jones:

An act for the relief of Francis E. Baden.

An act to grant the right of way to the Ste. Genevieve Iron Mountain and Pilot Knob Plank Road Company.

An act to grant to the State of Ohio the unsold and unappropriated lands remaining in that State.

Senate joint resolution authorizing the purchase of the ninth volume of the laws of the United States; and Senate bill for the relief of Anna Norton and Louis Foskil.

ate bill for the relief of Anna Norton and Louis Foskil, were read three times and passed.

FRENCH SPOLIATION BILL.

Senate bill entitled "An act to provide for the ascertainment and satisfaction of claims of American citizens for spoliations committed by the French prior to the 31st day of July, 1801," was read twice. Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, moved that the bill be refer

red to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. HIBBARD moved that it be referred to the Com

red to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. HIBBARD moved that it be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, said that the question had been asked what had these claims to do with the Committee on Foreign Affairs? All he had to say in reply to this inquiry was, that from 1804 to the present time these bills, when acted upon, had been reported from that committee, without a single exception, so far as he knew. Hence it was he made the motion to give it that direction.

Mr. STANLY said that if this bill should go to the Committee of the Whole, under the rules of the House, it would require a two-thirds vote to get it up.

Mr. HOUSTON. No; it will not.

Mr. STANLY. I ask the Speaker if it is not so?

The SPEAKER stated that to be taken up out of its order it would require a two-thirds vote. It could, however, be reached by passing by other bills.

Mr. STANLY. Precisely. It will be morally impossible to pass by other bills.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, remarked that, in reply to the gentleman from Virginia, (Mr. BAYLY.) he would say that this bill had nothing to do with foreign matters. It was purely a domestic matter. In reference to what the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. STANLY) had said, he would remark that even if this bill should be referred to any other committee and be reported back, unless a tract thirds was could be abstanced to suspend the rules it

he would remark that even if this bill should be referred to any other committee and be reported back, unless a two-thirds vote could be obtained to suspend the rules, it would have to go to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, under the rule which required all appropriations to be considered in that Committee.

Mr. STANLY said that the bill made no appropriation.

The yeas and nays were then demanded and ordered on the motion to refer the bill to the Committee of the

Whole, pending which— The House adjourned.

# WEDNESDAY, MAY 5, 1852.

IN SENATE.

and benefit of all the States, and should be faithfully and fairly disposed of for that purpose. That while they approve of the policy of liberal grants to the new States for the purposes of education and internal improvements, they deem it just for the old States to share in grants for the same public purposes, and claiming for New York her just and rightful share. That in consideration of the grants made to the new States at the time of and since their admission into the Union, and of the many applications now made for still further appropriations for railroads and internal improvements, their Senators and Representatives be requested to urge upon Congress the propriety of making grants of land upon some equal and just principle of appropriation to all the States, for the purposes of education and for other useful public purposes, having due regard to the grants already made, and the population of the respective States. The resolutions were

population of the respective States. The resolutions were read, ordered to be printed, and laid on the table. Mr. SUMNER presented resolutions of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, concerning a grant of public land in aid of national normal schools,

hibited during the Mexican war.

The resolutions of the Legislature of Louisiana, asking that Baton Rouge might be allowed to enclose the grounds attached to the barracks, to be used as a cemetery.

The resolutions of the Legislature of New Mexico, instructing the delegate from that Territory to procure the passage of a law to raise two regiments for the defence of that Territory.

The committee was discharged in all the above cases.

Also, from the same committee to Thick was a first the committee was discharged in the case of the case of

Also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill to provide for the better protection of the people of Oregon, reported back the same, with a recommendation that it do not pass.

Also, from the same committee, to which was referred the report of the Secretary of War in relation to the sur-vey of the Umpqua and Rogue rivers, in Oregon, reported back the same, and moved that it lie on the table.

BILLS PASSED. The following bills were severally read a third time and

The bill for the relief of Ursula E. Coble. The bill for the relief of Jim Capers. The bill granting to the State of Wise way and a donation of the public lands, for the purpose of locating and constructing a railroad from Fond du Lac

The title of the above bill was amended DEFICIENCY RILL The Senate then proceeded to the consideration

deficiency bill, when

Mr. HUNTER rose and addressed the Senate in opportion to the amendment giving increased compensation Mr. RUSK replied briefly to the remarks of Mr. Hux.

Mr. JAMES obtained the floor, and the further co ation was postponed until to-morrow; and on his motion the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and, after some considerable time spent therein, the doors were re-opened, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. SEYMOUR, of New York, by unanimous consen presented resolutions of the Legislature of that Stat-urging upon Congress "the propriety of making gran

was the consideration of the following resolution, reported by the Committee on Printing on Friday last:

Resolved, That there be printed for the use of the House of Representatives 50,000 copies of the mechanical part of the Patent Office report, and three thousand additional copies for the use of the Commissioner of Patents.

Mr. TUCK raised the question of order, that the first business in order resolved.

business in order was the motion to refer to the Commit-tee of the Whole the French Spoliation bill, it having been

taken from the Speaker's table on Monday.

The SPEAKER decided that the resolution from the Committee on Printing was the first business in order. According to the practice of the House, the French Spoliation bill was confined to business on the Speaker's table, and would be the first thing in order when the House should proceed to the therivers.

should proceed to that business.

Mr. HOUSTON moved that the House go into Commit-

should proceed to that business.

Mr. HOUSTON moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, with a view of taking up the Homestead bill; which motion was disagreed to: Ayes 63, noes 77.

The House then proceeded to consider the resolution reported by the Committee on Printing.

Mr. CLINGMAN said that he had no disposition to occupy the time of the House in discussing this question; but, with a view of ascertaining the sense of the House, he would move that the resolution be committed to the Committee on Printing, and that they are hereby instructed "to report to this House what, if any, arrangement has been made to have the public printing executed; and if any other than the public printer has been employed, to report what prices they have agreed to pay; and that the said committee be instructed to let out such printing as the present contractor cannot execute to the lowest responsible bidder, after ten days' notice."

Mr. STUART raised the question of order, that it was not competent to instruct the Committee on Printing in regard to any thing except that which was pertinent to the subject matter it was moved to recommit. The subject sought to be recommitted was a report from the Committee on Printing, directing the printing of a certain number of extra copies of the report of the Commissioner of Patents. The instructions did not propose any modification of the former report, or a substitute therefor; but related to the subject of public printing generally, and were in contravention of the existing law.

The SPEAKER decided that the motion of Mr. CLINGMAN was in order. He was of opinion, that the action of the committee on the subject of printing generally, of which the printing of the Patent Office report was a part, might very reasonably be presumed to affect to some extent the action of the House on the pending resolution. As to the effect of the instructions, in view of existing laws, he thought it more properly a question-for the decision of the House than for the chair.

LY, and others.
Mr. JOHNSON, of Arkansas, then moved the previous

Mr. EVANS moved that the appeal be laid on the table;

Mr. EVANS moved that the appeal be laid on the table; which motion was agreed to: Yeas 122, nays 44.

So the decision of the Chair was sustained.

The SPEAKER then stated the question to be upon agreeing to the motion submitted by Mr. CLINGMAN to recommit the resolutions with instructions.

Mr. GORMAN, from the Committee on Printing, on the part of the House, modified his report of the pending resolution by adding thereto the following, viz: "the cost of printing said mechanical part of said Patent Office reof printing said mechanical part of said Patent Office report will be about forty-nine cents per copy."

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, moved to amend the instructions offered by Mr. CLINGMAN by putting them in the

tions offered by Mr. CLINGMAN by putting them in the form of a joint resolution.

He remarked that he had heard a great deal about the "higher law party" in this country. The object of his amendment was to ascertain how many of that party there were in the House, and he would undertake to say that his opinion was that one of the branches of the Legislature of the United States set more examples of higher law than any other body of the same number. They did this every day in riding down their own rules. By the Constitution of the United States each House had authority to adopt its own rules of proceeding. After they had done this, the rules were precisely as much the law of the land, adopted in pursuance of the Constitution, as any other law. And yet the House constantly undertook to exercise the higher law privilege, and run over these rules!

By the law of 1846 the subject of the public printing was committed to the Joint Committee on Printing of the two Houses, and during this whole session there had been attempts on the part of one House, without the concurrence or sanction of the other, to control that law. In other words, there had been a practical attempt to assert here the higher law doctrine. He should not go into a minute discussion of this law regulating public printing, because it had already been discussed, and he had no disposition to go over the ground again; but he would say that the committee had plenary power over this subject, and that neither of the two Houses could control the committee; and when one of the two Houses undertook Mr. FISH presented concurrent resolutions of the Le-islature of New York, setting forth that the public land of the Federal Government having been obtained from individual States, or by conquests or by purchase, is the joint and common property of the States, held in trust by the General Government as a common fund for the use and benefit of all the States, and should be faithfully and fairly disposed of for that purpose. That while they approve of the policy of liberal grants to the new States for the purposes of education and internal improvements, they deem it just for the old States to share in grants for the rules of the House, or by the rules of the Senate, but he are supplied to this. When a question arose as to the number of copies each Honse would issue, each had the sole authority to decide itself. How these documents could be printed, how the public printing was to be executed according to the contract or not—all this by law had been committed to the Joint Committee on Printing, whose conduct was regulated, not by the rules of the House, or by the rules of the Senate, but he are successed in the sole authority to decide itself. How these documents could be printed, how the public printing was to be executed according to the contract or not—all this by law had been committed to the Joint Committee on Printing, whose conduct was regulated, not by the rules of the House, or by the rules of the States, held in trust arose as to the number of copies each Honse would issue, each had the sole authority to decide itself. by a law which was passed by both Houses and approved by the President. These instructions were for a joint committee constituted by law; and he undertook to main-tain that the House had no right to give instructions to

the committee in any other mode than by a joint resolu-tion of the two Houses.

Mr. EVANS said that this subject had occupied the whe had executed the public printing had put such large sums of money into their pockets that the 29th Congress—a Democratic one—determined that the contract system should be adopted; and what had been the consequence. system should be adopted; and what had been the conse-quence? This system had been violated at every step, and combinations had been formed in this city by presses of both parties to break this system down.

The Senate of the United States, as he had understood,

grant of public land in said of national normal schools, setting forth that Massachusetts deems it expedient and just that Congress appropriate a portion of the public lands to establish and endow a "National Agricultural College," which shall be to the rural sciences what West Point Academy is to the military, for the purpose of educating teachers and professors for service in all the States of the Republic; which were read, ordered to be printed, and referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

By Mr. SHIELDS, from the Committee on Military Aflairs, asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the following memorials and resolutions of State Legislatures:

From Charles B. Brower, a dismissed officer, asking to be reinstated in his former rank.

From Charles Lee Jones, asking compensation for services and expenses incurred in organizing and subsisting volunteers for the war with Mexico.

From Wm. Graham, W. L. Lothrop, and other non-commissioned officers, asking additional pay for bravery exhibited during the Mexican war.

The senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the United States, as he had understood. The Senate of the English the printing of Congress? It appeared that they could not obtain their part of the bargain, and it was not a fair shake. He was opposed to all combinations, to all corrections of either party. He would stand up to the rack. The Republic had obtained the printing of the Patent Offic

easy matter to establish a Government printing office, free of all corruption.

Mr. GORMAN, in the course of Mr. Evans's remarks, explained the action of the Cammittee on Printing. He said that a proposition was made in the committee to give the printing to the Union and Republic, and it was voted down. The committee on the part of the Senate then introduced a proposition that each committee should give out such printing as it saw proper, each half of the Committee exercising its own judgment. The committee on the part of the House, under this arrangement, had executed a contract with Donelson & Armstrong, and they had ordered the printing of one single document, for that was all in their possession. They had strenuously kept the contract with Mr. Hamilton, and, whenever he could execute it, the printing had been given to him. The committee on the part of the House were not responsible for the action of the committee on the part of the Senate.

He did not know what action they had taken. He would not suffer here or elsewhere rumors that he had acted in He did not know what action they had taken. He would not suffer here or elsewhere rumors that he had acted in any manner, except in good faith. He was seriously anxious to report to the House what the committee had done, and did not desire to conceal any thing from the House. Such a course would be unjust to the House, and the country would rebnke him for so doing. Therefore, he would not permit, here or elsewhere, insinuations that he had acted in bad faith, when he had done the best he could. He had no disposition to disobey any suggestions which might be made by the House. He should feel in honor bound to carry them out faithfully. The contract now had been made with Donelson & Armstrong to do such printing as the contractor had failed to execute, and the public printer had sent in a memorial asking relief, and he should feel very much inclined, under the ruinous contract he had made, to allow him the amount of ten per cent. already deducted from his bills. The public printer had said that he could not perform the contract.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, said that, by way of variety, he would demand the previous question.

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